



SCHOONER ERNESTINA COMMISSION (SEC)
*Department of Conservation and Recreation
Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

MINUTES OF MEETING APRIL 7, 2016

10am-12pm

Corson Building, 33 William Street
New Bedford MA

Meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm. by chairperson Pires-Hester. Commissioners present were Eugene Monteiro, Brian Rothschild, Karl Pastore, Licy Do Canto and Fred Sterner. Others present were Wendy Pearl, Jeanine Da Silva, Harold Burnham, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Brigham, Julius Britto, Mary Anne McQuillan, Chuck Smiler, Joe Pacheco, and Doug Styversant.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Laura began the meeting by handing out copies of the Commission 2015/16 Annual Report and 2016/17 Projections which had been forwarded to Wendy as of March 24, identifying especially what we need to focus on going forward [see page 8] of document], especially on the subject of the yet to be established Memorandum of Understanding/Agreement with DCR and MA Maritime Academy. She also thanked Commissioners for helping to locate hard copies of Minutes of previous meetings; all but one for 2013 were sent to Wendy by 3/24, the date for start of the Audit. She also expressed concern for the status of those commissioners who have not yet been reappointed: she and Fred are still on “holdover” status from 2014, Karl has not yet been reappointed from DCR, MOTT has not yet moved on designation therefore Michael Quinlin is no longer a member, and Education designee has not yet been appointed. She has been in conversation with the State Office of Boards and Commissions, and Wendy is following up on Karl’s renewal appointment. She also acknowledged the very positive response from the media interviews of Chester Brigham, who will be present, along with Harold, at the “Sailors Series” program this evening at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed and approved (motion made by Fred, second by Licy.)

REPORT FROM DCR Wendy distributed the latest progress report on the ship, which included Harold’s report. Report contained information as to spending. Money spent for FY ‘16 was spent on time unlike what happened in FY ‘15. Inventory of equipment at State Pier needs to be done. Wendy and Harold will work on this. State auditors are doing an audit with December 2013 as a start point. The audit will take 5 to 6 weeks. Their focus will be on revenue and expenditures, and the status of commissioners. Currently, the official status of Karl, Michael Quinlin, Fred and Laura have to be acted upon.

Commissioners were asked to review the Annual Report and forward any questions or modifications within a couple of days to Laura so that Wendy can officially submit the Report to DCR. Licy asked about the storage of the Minutes: Wendy stated that copies can be found on the Web Site. Brian expressed concern that we lost \$10,000 in FY’15. Harold said that buying material takes time and there wasn’t enough time during that year. Chuck added that the money was not lost and we could reapply for it. Brian asked how we are doing as to spending. Wendy said this is not a problem at this time and that the end date for completion has flexibility.

Harold explained that he insisted on having many stages to complete the many tasks at Boothbay. In other words, a task is completed fully before moving to the next job. Brian inquired as to phase 2 costs, and Wendy suggested we focus on phase 1 at this time. Harold stated that getting quality materials has been difficult, for example seeking various lumber from Denmark, Georgia, and Vancouver, Canada. He stated that Boothbay hired David Short as the master shipwright and he has been very helpful to Harold. He is on the job every day while Harold is there several days a week. Harold is very confident with David. All work to be done is on a 100% completion basis.

Gene raised the issue of boat design as it relates to tonnage, which had been discussed previously. Technical explanation by Harold was satisfactory in terms of it not being an issue during phase 1, however decisions will need to be made at some point during phase 1 and according to Harold, "sooner is better than later." Licy asked Wendy to provide a deadline on the design/tonnage matter ASAP for the Commission to consider. Chuck raised the issue of tonnage /waiver. Licy asked Harold for his recommendation as to the tonnage matter.

PLANNING TOWARD ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY'S FUTURE Laura distributed copies of "Points for Consideration in MOU/A with DCR and MA Maritime Academy". After last meeting, Commissioners Fred, Gene, Licy (by phone) had met, with Chuck invited as consultant, to identify key issues to be addressed in the document. The current draft was latest one. She expressed the hope as to a final MOU/A document as soon as possible, as the document has an impact regarding several aspects of phase 1 and current decisions will affect later Phases. She felt the "ball is in DCR's court" and that SEC [commission] should reach out to the DCR Commissioner to help move the process forward. She will reach out to the commissioner before the next meeting. There was much discussion about what the MOU/A should say etc. Chuck feels it should include a business plan because Phases 1, 2, and 3 are all connected. Karl expressed the value of bringing the DCR Commissioner "up to speed." Licy recommends inviting talks with DCR, MMA, SEC, and local legislators. Laura asked Licy to draft a letter to the Commissioner. A motion was made by Gene and seconded by Brian that Licy draft such letter that expresses SEC concerns as to development of the MOU/A, and that it go to Commissioner Roy as soon as possible.

Next meeting is Friday May13, 2016, 1-3pm, Corson Building.

Meeting adjourned at 4:09pm.

Submitted by Eugene A. Monteiro